

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

NOTIFICATION OF ELECTION

(PCT Rule 61.2)

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

To:

Commissioner
 US Department of Commerce
 United States Patent and Trademark
 Office, PCT
 2011 South Clark Place Room
 CP2/5C24
 Arlington, VA 22202
 ETATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE
 in its capacity as elected Office

Date of mailing (day/month/year) 18 June 2001 (18.06.01)	
International application No. PCT/EP00/08270	Applicant's or agent's file reference 00/121
International filing date (day/month/year) 22 August 2000 (22.08.00)	Priority date (day/month/year) 22 August 1999 (22.08.99)
Applicant THUNNISSEN, Fredericus, Bernardus, Josephus, Maria et al	

1. The designated Office is hereby notified of its election made:

☒ in the demand filed with the International Preliminary Examining Authority on:
 08 March 2001 (08.03.01)

☐ in a notice effecting later election filed with the International Bureau on:

2. The election ☒ was
☐ was not

made before the expiration of 19 months from the priority date or, where Rule 32 applies, within the time limit under Rule 32.2(b).



The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland	Authorized officer Olivia TEFY
Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35	Telephone No.: (41-22) 338.83.38

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 00/121		FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/EP00/08270	International filing date (day/month/year) 22/08/2000	Priority date (day/month/year) 22/08/1999	
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC C12Q1/68			
Applicant DOT DIAGNOSTICS B.V. et al.			
<p>1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of 6 sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e. sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).</p> <p>These annexes consist of a total of 3 sheets.</p>			
<p>3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basis of the report II <input type="checkbox"/> Priority III <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability IV <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of unity of invention V <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement VI <input type="checkbox"/> Certain documents cited VII <input type="checkbox"/> Certain defects in the international application VIII <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Certain observations on the international application 			
Date of submission of the demand 08/03/2001		Date of completion of this report 26.11.2001	
Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:  European Patent Office D-80298 Munich Tel. +49 89 2399 - 0 Tx: 523656 epmu d Fax: +49 89 2399 - 4465		Authorized officer Wieser, M Telephone No. +49 89 2399 8434 	

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/EP 00/08270

Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of Item 1 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☒ Claims Nos.: 9
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
see FURTHER INFORMATION sheet PCT/ISA/210
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of Item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

Continuation of Box I.2

Claims Nos.: 9

In view of the wording of claim 9 presently on file, which render it difficult, if not impossible, to determine the matter for which protection is sought, the present application fails to comply with the clarity and conciseness requirements of Article 6 PCT (see also Rule 6.1(a) PCT) to such an extent that a meaningful search is impossible. Consequently, the search has been carried out for those parts of the application which do appear to be clear (and concise), namely claims 1-8.

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims, or parts of claims, relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure.

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT


INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

REC'D 28 NOV 2001

WIPO PCT

14

Applicant's or agent's file reference 00/121		FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/EP00/08270	International filing date (day/month/year) 22/08/2000	Priority date (day/month/year) 22/08/1999	
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC C12Q1/68			
Applicant DOT DIAGNOSTICS B.V. et al.			
<p>1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of 6 sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e. sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).</p> <p>These annexes consist of a total of 3 sheets.</p>			
<p>3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basis of the report II <input type="checkbox"/> Priority III <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability IV <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of unity of invention V <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement VI <input type="checkbox"/> Certain documents cited VII <input type="checkbox"/> Certain defects in the international application VIII <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Certain observations on the international application 			
Date of submission of the demand 08/03/2001		Date of completion of this report 26.11.2001	
Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:  Europ an Patent Office D-80298 Munich Tel. +49 89 2399 - 0 Tx: 523656 epmu d Fax: +49 89 2399 - 4465		Authorized officer Wieser, M Telephone No. +49 89 2399 8434	



INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No. PCT/EP00/08270

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the **elements** of the international application (*Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17)*):

Description, pages:

1-25 as originally filed

Claims, No.:

1-11 as received on 05/11/2001 with letter of 02/11/2001

Drawings, sheets:

1/10-10/10 as originally filed

2. With regard to the **language**, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language: , which is:

- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of the international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- ☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- ☐ contained in the international application in written form.
- ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- ☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- ☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages:
- ☐ the claims, Nos.:

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No. PCT/EP00/08270

☐ the drawings, sheets:

5. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed (Rule 70.2(c)):

(Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.)

6. Additional observations, if necessary:

III. Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability

1. The questions whether the claimed invention appears to be novel, to involve an inventive step (to be non-obvious), or to be industrially applicable have not been examined in respect of:

☐ the entire international application.

☒ claims Nos. 9.

because:

☐ the said international application, or the said claims Nos. relate to the following subject matter which does not require an international preliminary examination (*specify*):

☐ the description, claims or drawings (*indicate particular elements below*) or said claims Nos. are so unclear that no meaningful opinion could be formed (*specify*):

☐ the claims, or said claims Nos. are so inadequately supported by the description that no meaningful opinion could be formed.

☒ no international search report has been established for the said claims Nos. 9.

2. A meaningful international preliminary examination cannot be carried out due to the failure of the nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence listing to comply with the standard provided for in Annex C of the Administrative Instructions:

☐ the written form has not been furnished or does not comply with the standard.

☐ the computer readable form has not been furnished or does not comply with the standard.

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)

Yes: Claims 1-8,10,11

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No. PCT/EP00/08270

	No:	Claims	
Inventive step (IS)	Yes:	Claims	1-8,10,11
	No:	Claims	
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes:	Claims	1-8,10,11
	No:	Claims	

2. Citations and explanations
see separate sheet

VIII. Certain observations on the international application

The following observations on the clarity of the claims, description, and drawings or on the question whether the claims are fully supported by the description, are made:
see separate sheet

Section III

Claims relating to inventions in respect of which no International Search Report has been established need not to be the subject of International Preliminary Examination (Rule 66(1)(e) PCT. Accordingly, claim 9, which is identified in the International Search Report as not having been searched, is not subject of this International Preliminary Examination Report.

Section V

The following documents mentioned in the International Search Report are considered as being the most relevant prior art:

- (A) WO-A-96/41 005
- (B) NUCLEIC ACIDS RESEARCH; vol. 22, no. 22,
November 1994, pages 4840-4841, XP002013669
- (C) WO-A-96/41 011
- (D) WO-A-98/59 243

Claims 1-8,10, and 11 refer to a method, a device and a kit for detecting the presence of a nucleotide sequence within a dsDNA in a sample. The method is characterized in claim 1 by working steps (a) to (h), wherein steps (c) to (h) are performed by microarray technique on a solid glass support.

Documents A and B (from the Applicants of the preset application), refer to the method of claim 1 (i.e. the point-EXACCT method), with the difference that according to claim 1, the capturing step is carried out on a solid glass support coated with a first biotin layer to which, after drying, a second streptavidin layer is attached. In document A the exonuclease treated DNA oligonucleotide hybrids are captured on streptavidin-coated magnetic microspheres or on streptavidin-coated microspheres packed in columns. Other streptavidin-coated support matrices are said to be under investigation (see claims and example 2).

The problem to be solved by the present application was to improve the point-EXACCT method in order to perform large scale nucleic acid analysis, enabling

simultaneous analysis of thousands of DNA sequences (see page 3 of the description).

Chip- or microarray technology using Biotin-(Strept)avidin coated arrays is known in the art. Document C (see page 33) discloses a glass surface derivatized with an alkylamino linker which may be cross-linked to avidin to form an avidinated surface. Document D (see claims) refers to a method for attaching biotin covalently, i.e. by a photoactivation process, to a silicon dioxide support, and attaching streptavidin to immobilized biotin layer.

Thus, none of these documents would encourage a skilled person to amend the teaching in documents A and B in a way to arrive at the subject-matter of claims 1-8,10 and 11 in an obvious way. These claims meet the requirements of Article 33(3) PCT.

Section VIII

Claim 8 item (a), referring to a device, should contain a reference to claim 7 (Article 6 PCT).

corrected
version

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 00/121	FOR FURTHER ACTION see Notification of Transmittal of International Search Report (Form PCT/ISA/220) as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.	
International application No. PCT/EP 00/ 08270	International filing date (day/month/year) 22/08/2000	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) 22/08/1999
Applicant DOT DIAGNOSTICS B.V.		

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 6 sheets.



It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

- a. With regard to the **language**, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.



the international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

- b. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international search was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing :



contained in the international application in written form.



filed together with the international application in computer readable form.



furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.



furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.



the statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.



the statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished

2. ☒ **Certain claims were found unsearchable** (See Box I).

3. ☐ **Unity of invention is lacking** (see Box II).

4. With regard to the **title**,



the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.



the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the **abstract**,



the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.



the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box III. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. The figure of the **drawings** to be published with the abstract is Figure No.



as suggested by the applicant.



because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.



because this figure better characterizes the invention.



None of the figures.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/EP 00/08270

Box III TEXT OF THE ABSTRACT (Continuation of item 5 of the first sheet)

The present invention provides an improved method of detecting the presence of a nucleotide sequence within a double-stranded DNA in a sample comprising the following steps: a) coating a solid support with a first layer of biotinylated serum albumin, and a second layer of streptavidin having sufficient density to perform efficient microarray analysis; b) digesting the double-stranded DNA with an exonuclease to convert double-stranded to single stranded DNA, derived from a mixture of target cells and other cells, to a single-stranded DNA; c) capturing a first nucleic acid probe adapted by biotin to said coated solid support defined in step a.; d) hybridizing (i) the single-stranded DNA with the first nucleic acid probe, and (ii) a second nucleic acid probe labeled with a detectable moiety which can hybridize with the single-stranded DNA adjacent the hybridized first nucleic probe; e) ligating the hybridized first and second nucleic acid probes in case of perfect match only; f) denaturing the ligated first and second nucleic acid probes from the hybridized single-stranded DNA; g) removing non-covalently bound labeled probes and single stranded DNA; and h) detecting captured detectable moiety indicating the presence of the nucleotide sequence within the double-stranded DNA in the sample; wherein steps c.-h. are performed by microarray technique. Also provided is a device and a kit suitable for carrying out said detection method.

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 00/121	FOR FURTHER ACTION see Notification of Transmittal of International Search Report (Form PCT/ISA/220) as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.	
International application No. PCT/EP 00/ 08270	International filing date (day/month/year) 22/08/2000	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) 22/08/1999
Applicant DOT DIAGNOSTICS B.V.		

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 5 sheets.

☒ It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

a. With regard to the **language**, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐ the international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

b. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international search was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing :

☐ contained in the international application in written form.

☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.

☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.

☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.

☐ the statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.

☐ the statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished

2. ☒ **Certain claims were found unsearchable** (See Box I).

3. ☐ **Unity of invention is lacking** (see Box II).

4. With regard to the **title**,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the **abstract**,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box III. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. The figure of the **drawings** to be published with the abstract is Figure No.

☐ as suggested by the applicant.

☐ because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.

☐ because this figure better characterizes the invention.

☒ None of the figures.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/EP 00/08270

Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

2. ☒ Claims Nos.: 9
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
see FURTHER INFORMATION sheet PCT/ISA/210

3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

B x II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.

2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.

3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:

4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/EP 00/08270

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
WO 9641005	A	19-12-1996	US 5744306 A AU 6256896 A	28-04-1998 30-12-1996
WO 9731256	A	28-08-1997	AU 2799797 A CA 2244891 A EP 0920440 A	10-09-1997 28-08-1997 09-06-1999
WO 9727317	A	31-07-1997	AU 2253397 A EP 0880598 A	20-08-1997 02-12-1998
WO 9411530	A	26-05-1994	US 5795714 A EP 0668932 A JP 8507199 T US 6007987 A US 5503980 A US 5631134 A	18-08-1998 30-08-1995 06-08-1996 28-12-1999 02-04-1996 20-05-1997
WO 9859243	A	30-12-1998	AU 8267998 A	04-01-1999
US 5242794	A	07-09-1993	US 4883750 A US 5521065 A US 5962223 A DE 3586090 A EP 0185494 A JP 1919077 C JP 6044880 B JP 61191964 A	28-11-1989 28-05-1996 05-10-1999 25-06-1992 25-06-1986 07-04-1995 15-06-1994 26-08-1986
WO 9641011	A	19-12-1996	US 5635400 A AU 718357 B AU 6102096 A CA 2222581 A CN 1193357 A CZ 9703926 A EP 0832287 A HU 9900910 A JP 11507528 T NO 975744 A PL 324000 A AU 712929 B AU 4277896 A AU 7717596 A CZ 9700866 A EP 0793718 A EP 0931165 A FI 971473 A JP 10507357 T NO 971644 A WO 9713877 A	03-06-1997 13-04-2000 30-12-1996 19-12-1996 16-09-1998 17-06-1998 01-04-1998 28-07-1999 06-07-1999 05-02-1998 27-04-1998 18-11-1999 06-05-1996 30-04-1997 17-09-1997 10-09-1997 28-07-1999 04-06-1997 21-07-1998 02-06-1997 17-04-1997
US 5710000	A	20-01-1998	US 6027894 A	22-02-2000

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

Continuation of Box I.2

Claims Nos.: 9

In view of the wording of claim 9 presently on file, which render it difficult, if not impossible, to determine the matter for which protection is sought, the present application fails to comply with the clarity and conciseness requirements of Article 6 PCT (see also Rule 6.1(a) PCT) to such an extent that a meaningful search is impossible. Consequently, the search has been carried out for those parts of the application which do appear to be clear (and concise), namely claims 1-8.

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims, or parts of claims, relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure.

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINING AUTHORITY

To:

Huygens, Arthur V.
OCTROOIBUREAU HUYGENS
P.O. Box 86
NL-3400 AB IJsselstein
PAYS-BAS

PCT

NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT (PCT Rule 71.1)

Date of mailing
(day/month/year) 26.11.2001

Applicant's or agent's file reference
00/121

IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION

International application No.
PCT/EP00/08270

International filing date (day/month/year)
22/08/2000

Priority date (day/month/year)
22/08/1999

Applicant
DOT DIAGNOSTICS B.V. et al.

1. The applicant is hereby notified that this International Preliminary Examining Authority transmits herewith the international preliminary examination report and its annexes, if any, established on the international application.
2. A copy of the report and its annexes, if any, is being transmitted to the International Bureau for communication to all the elected Offices.
3. Where required by any of the elected Offices, the International Bureau will prepare an English translation of the report (but not of any annexes) and will transmit such translation to those Offices.

4. REMINDER

The applicant must enter the national phase before each elected Office by performing certain acts (filing translations and paying national fees) within 30 months from the priority date (or later in some Offices) (Article 39(1)) (see also the reminder sent by the International Bureau with Form PCT/IB/301).

Where a translation of the international application must be furnished to an elected Office, that translation must contain a translation of any annexes to the international preliminary examination report. It is the applicant's responsibility to prepare and furnish such translation directly to each elected Office concerned.

For further details on the applicable time limits and requirements of the elected Offices, see Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide.

Name and mailing address of the IPEA



European Patent Office
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Authorized officer

Neumann, M

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/EP 00/08270

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
WO 9641005 A	19-12-1996	US 5744306 A AU 6256896 A	28-04-1998 30-12-1996
WO 9731256 A	28-08-1997	AU 2799797 A CA 2244891 A EP 0920440 A	10-09-1997 28-08-1997 09-06-1999
WO 9727317 A	31-07-1997	AU 2253397 A EP 0880598 A	20-08-1997 02-12-1998
WO 9411530 A	26-05-1994	US 5795714 A EP 0668932 A JP 8507199 T US 6007987 A US 5503980 A US 5631134 A	18-08-1998 30-08-1995 06-08-1996 28-12-1999 02-04-1996 20-05-1997
WO 9859243 A	30-12-1998	AU 8267998 A	04-01-1999
US 5242794 A	07-09-1993	US 4883750 A US 5521065 A US 5962223 A DE 3586090 A EP 0185494 A JP 1919077 C JP 6044880 B JP 61191964 A	28-11-1989 28-05-1996 05-10-1999 25-06-1992 25-06-1986 07-04-1995 15-06-1994 26-08-1986
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**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET**

International application No. PCT/EP00/08270

Section III

Claims relating to inventions in respect of which no International Search Report has been established need not to be the subject of International Preliminary Examination (Rule 66(1)(e) PCT. Accordingly, claim 9, which is identified in the International Search Report as not having been searched, is not subject of this International Preliminary Examination Report.

Section V

The following documents mentioned in the International Search Report are considered as being the most relevant prior art:

- (A) WO-A-96/41 005
- (B) NUCLEIC ACIDS RESEARCH; vol. 22, no. 22,
November 1994, pages 4840-4841, XP002013669
- (C) WO-A-96/41 011
- (D) WO-A-98/59 243

Claims 1-8, 10, and 11 refer to a method, a device and a kit for detecting the presence of a nucleotide sequence within a dsDNA in a sample. The method is characterized in claim 1 by working steps (a) to (h), wherein steps (c) to (h) are performed by microarray technique on a solid glass support.

Documents A and B (from the Applicants of the preset application), refer to the method of claim 1 (i.e. the point-EXACCT method), with the difference that according to claim 1, the capturing step is carried out on a solid glass support coated with a first biotin layer to which, after drying, a second streptavidin layer is attached. In document A the exonuclease treated DNA oligonucleotide hybrids are captured on streptavidin-coated magnetic microspheres or on streptavidin-coated microspheres packed in columns. Other streptavidin-coated support matrices are said to be under investigation (see claims and example 2).

The problem to be solved by the present application was to improve the point-EXACCT method in order to perform large scale nucleic acid analysis, enabling

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET**

International application No. PCT/EP00/08270

simultaneous analysis of thousands of DNA sequences (see page 3 of the description).

Chip- or microarray technology using Biotin-(Strept)avidin coated arrays is known in the art. Document C (see page 33) discloses a glass surface derivatized with an alkylamino linker which may be cross-linked to avidin to form an avidinated surface. Document D (see claims) refers to a method for attaching biotin covalently, i.e. by a photoactivation process, to a silicon dioxide support, and attaching streptavidin to immobilized biotin layer.

Thus, none of these documents would encourage a skilled person to amend the teaching in documents A and B in a way to arrive at the subject-matter of claims 1-8, 10 and 11 in an obvious way. These claims meet the requirements of Article 33(3) PCT.

Section VIII

Claim 8 item (a), referring to a device, should contain a reference to claim 7 (Article 6 PCT).

Revised Claims
(2 November 2001)

1. A method of detecting the presence of a nucleotide sequence within a
5 double-stranded DNA in a sample comprising the following steps:

a. coating a solid glass support with a first layer of biotinylated serum albumin
in an amount to create sufficient binding sites for the capture probes, drying said first layer
and incubating said first dried layer with a second layer of streptavidin having sufficient
density to perform efficient microarray analysis;

10 b. digesting the double-stranded DNA with an exonuclease to convert double-
stranded to single stranded DNA, derived from a mixture of target cells and other cells, to
a single-stranded DNA;

c. capturing a first nucleic acid probe adapted by biotin to said coated solid
support defined in step a.;

15 d. hybridizing (i) the single-stranded DNA with the first nucleic acid probe, and
(ii) a second nucleic acid probe labeled with a detectable moiety which can hybridize with
the single-stranded DNA adjacent the hybridized first nucleic probe;

e. ligating the hybridized first and second nucleic acid probes in case of
perfect match only;

20 f. denaturing the ligated first and second nucleic acid probes from the
hybridized single-stranded DNA;

g. removing non-covalently bound labeled probes and single stranded DNA;
and

h. detecting captured detectable moiety indicating the presence of the
25 nucleotide sequence within the double-stranded DNA in the sample;

characterized in that steps c.-h. are performed by microarray technique.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein step d (ii) is adapted with the use of a
mixture of partly randomized probes to allow detection of mutations without knowing the
30 site and type of mutation beforehand.

3. The method according to claim 1 or claim 2, wherein said solid glass
support is made of Starfrost glass.

4. The method of any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein first nucleic acid probes are printed on said solid glass support or are built on said solid glass support by light-directed oligonucleotide synthesis.
5. The method of any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the detectable moiety on the second nucleic acid probe is digoxigenin, and the detecting step is performed by binding the digoxigenin with anti-digoxigenin antibody fragments.
6. A device suitable for carrying out the detection method as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, which comprises a solid glass support having a coating which is obtainable by the method comprising coating said solid glass support with a first layer of biotinylated serum albumin in an amount to create sufficient binding sites for the capture probes, drying said first layer, and incubating said first dried layer with a second layer of streptavidin having sufficient density to perform efficient microarray analysis.
7. The device according to claim 6, wherein the said solid glass support is made of Starfrost glass.
8. A kit comprising:
- a. a device suitable for carrying out the detection method according to the present invention as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 7;
 - b. optionally an exonuclease;
 - c. a first nucleic acid probe which binds to target DNA and which is adapted with a capture moiety;
 - d. a second nucleic acid probe which binds to target DNA adjacent the first probe and which is labeled with a detectable moiety; and
 - e. optionally a ligase.
9. A method for organizing microarray analysis on a solid glass support for rapid visual detection of abnormalities which comprises arranging a duplicate set of probes where the first series of arrays are for the wild-type mutation order and the second series of arrays are for the classical sequencing order.

10. The method of claim 1, wherein prior to the drying in step a parafilm, preferably covered by a weight, or a surfactant is added to enhance the distribution of said first layer.

5 11. The device of claim 6, wherein the solid glass support is obtainable by the method in which prior to the drying in step a parafilm, preferably covered by a weight, or a surfactant is added to enhance the distribution of said first layer.

Claims

1. A method of detecting the presence of a nucleotide sequence within a double-stranded DNA in a sample comprising the following steps:

5 a. coating a solid support with a first layer of biotinylated serum albumin, and a second layer of streptavidin having sufficient density to perform efficient microarray analysis;

b. digesting the double-stranded DNA with an exonuclease to convert double-stranded to single stranded DNA, derived from a mixture of target cells and other cells, to
10 a single-stranded DNA;

c. capturing a first nucleic acid probe adapted by biotin to said coated solid support defined in step a.;

d. hybridizing (i) the single-stranded DNA with the first nucleic acid probe, and (ii) a second nucleic acid probe labeled with a detectable moiety which can hybridize with
15 the single-stranded DNA adjacent the hybridized first nucleic probe;

e. ligating the hybridized first and second nucleic acid probes in case of perfect match only;

f. denaturing the ligated first and second nucleic acid probes from the hybridized single-stranded DNA;

20 g. removing non-covalently bound labeled probes and single stranded DNA; and

h. detecting captured detectable moiety indicating the presence of the nucleotide sequence within the double-stranded DNA in the sample;

characterized in that steps c.-h. are performed by microarray technique.

25

2. The method of claim 1, wherein step d (ii) is adapted with the use of a mixture of partly randomized probes to allow detection of mutations without knowing the site and type of mutation beforehand.

30 3. The method according to claim 1 or claim 2, wherein said solid support is made of glass, preferably Starfrost glass.

4. The method of any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein first nucleic acid probes are printed on said solid support or are built on said solid support by light-directed
35 oligonucleotide synthesis.

5. The method of any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the detectable moiety on the second nucleic acid probe is digoxigenin, and the detecting step is performed by binding the digoxigenin with anti-digoxigenin antibody fragments.

5 6. A device suitable for carrying out the detection method as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, which comprises a solid support having a coating comprising a first layer of biotinylated serum albumin, and a second layer of streptavidin having sufficient density to perform efficient microarray analysis.

10 7. The device according to claim 8, wherein the said solid support is made of glass, preferably Starfrost glass.

8. A kit comprising:

- 15 a. a device suitable for carrying out the detection method according to the present invention as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 7;
- b. optionally an exonuclease;
- c. a first nucleic acid probe which binds to target DNA and which is adapted with a capture moiety;
- d. a second nucleic acid probe which binds to target DNA adjacent the first
20 probe and which is labeled with a detectable moiety; and
- e. optionally a ligase.

9. A method for organizing microarray analysis on a solid support for rapid visual detection of abnormalities which comprises arranging a duplicate set of probes
25 where the first series of arrays are for the wild-type mutation order and the second series of arrays are for the classical sequencing order.

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT**

International application No. PCT/EP00/08270

	No:	Claims	
Inventive step (IS)	Yes:	Claims	1-8,10,11
	No:	Claims	
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes:	Claims	1-8,10,11
	No:	Claims	

**2. Citations and explanations
see separate sheet**

VIII. Certain observations on the international application

The following observations on the clarity of the claims, description, and drawings or on the question whether the claims are fully supported by the description, are made:
see separate sheet

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT**

International application No. PCT/EP00/08270

- ☐ the drawings, sheets:
5. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed (Rule 70.2(c)):
(Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.)
6. Additional observations, if necessary:

III. Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability

1. The questions whether the claimed invention appears to be novel, to involve an inventive step (to be non-obvious), or to be industrially applicable have not been examined in respect of:
- ☐ the entire international application.
- ☒ claims Nos. 9.

because:

- ☐ the said international application, or the said claims Nos. relate to the following subject matter which does not require an international preliminary examination (*specify*):
- ☐ the description, claims or drawings (*indicate particular elements below*) or said claims Nos. are so unclear that no meaningful opinion could be formed (*specify*):
- ☐ the claims, or said claims Nos. are so inadequately supported by the description that no meaningful opinion could be formed.
- ☒ no international search report has been established for the said claims Nos. 9.
2. A meaningful international preliminary examination cannot be carried out due to the failure of the nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence listing to comply with the standard provided for in Annex C of the Administrative Instructions:
- ☐ the written form has not been furnished or does not comply with the standard.
- ☐ the computer readable form has not been furnished or does not comply with the standard.

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N) Yes: Claims 1-8,10,11

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No. PCT/EP00/08270

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the **elements** of the international application (*Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17):*
Description, pages:

1-25 as originally filed

Claims, No.:

1-11 as received on 05/11/2001 with letter of 02/11/2001

Drawings, sheets:

1/10-10/10 as originally filed

2. With regard to the **language**, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language: , which is:

- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of the international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- ☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- ☐ contained in the international application in written form.
- ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- ☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- ☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages:
- ☐ the claims, Nos.:

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/EP 00/08270

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 C12Q1/68

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 C12Q

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, MEDLINE, BIOSIS, EMBASE

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 96 41005 A (MURTAGH JAMES J ; THUNNISSEN FREDERIK B J M (NL)) 19 December 1996 (1996-12-19) cited in the application the whole document	1-8
X	SOMERS V A M C ET AL: "A RAPID, RELIABLE METHOD FOR DETECTION OF KNOWN POINT MUTATIONS: POINT-EXACCT" NUCLEIC ACIDS RESEARCH, GB, OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS, SURREY, vol. 22, no. 22, 11 November 1994 (1994-11-11), pages 4840-4841, XP002013669 ISSN: 0305-1048 cited in the application the whole document	1-8

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *G* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

24 January 2001

Date of mailing of the international search report

31. 01. 2001

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/EP 00/08270

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	✓ WO 97 31256 A (BLOK HERMAN ; BARANY GEORGE (US); KEMPE MARIA (US); ZIRVI MONIB (US)) 28 August 1997 (1997-08-28) cited in the application the whole document	1-8
Y	✓ WO 97 27317 A (CHEE MARK ; LAI CHAOQIANG (US); LEE DANNY (US); AFFYMETRIX INC (US)) 31 July 1997 (1997-07-31) cited in the application See "VIII. Ligation enhanced signal detection", page 70-page 83 the whole document	1-8
Y	✓ WO 94 11530 A (UNIV BOSTON) 26 May 1994 (1994-05-26) the whole document	1-8
Y	✓ WO 98 59243 A (UNIV BOSTON) 30 December 1998 (1998-12-30) the whole document	1-8
Y	✓ US 5 242 794 A (HUNKAPILLER MICHAEL W ET AL) 7 September 1993 (1993-09-07) cited in the application the whole document	1-8
Y	✓ WO 96 41011 A (SPECTRAGEN INC) 19 December 1996 (1996-12-19) See Fig.3, claims 46-51 the whole document	1-8
A	✓ US 5 710 000 A (GINGERAS THOMAS R ET AL) 20 January 1998 (1998-01-20) the whole document	

CORRECTED VERSION

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
15 March 2001 (15.03.2001)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 01/18241 A1

- (51) International Patent Classification⁷: C12Q 1/68
- (21) International Application Number: PCT/EP00/08270
- (22) International Filing Date: 22 August 2000 (22.08.2000)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data:
99202714.4 22 August 1999 (22.08.1999) EP
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- (81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).
- Published:
— With international search report.
- (48) Date of publication of this corrected version:
3 May 2001
- (15) Information about Correction:
see PCT Gazette No. 18/2001 of 3 May 2001, Section II
- For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: IMPROVED METHOD FOR NUCLEOTIDE DETECTION AND DEVICES USED THEREIN

(57) Abstract: The present invention provides an improved method of detecting the presence of a nucleotide sequence within a double-stranded DNA in a sample comprising the following steps: a) coating a solid support with a first layer of biotinylated serum albumin, and a second layer of streptavidin having sufficient density to perform efficient microarray analysis; b) digesting the double-stranded DNA with an exonuclease to convert double-stranded to single stranded DNA, derived from a mixture of target cells and other cells, to a single-stranded DNA; c) capturing a first nucleic acid probe adapted by biotin to said coated solid support defined in step a; d) hybridizing (i) the single-stranded DNA with the first nucleic acid probe, and (ii) a second nucleic acid probe labeled with a detectable moiety which can hybridize with the single-stranded DNA adjacent the hybridized first nucleic probe; e) ligating the hybridized first and second nucleic acid probes in case of perfect match only; f) denaturing the ligated first and second nucleic acid probes from the hybridized single-stranded DNA; g) removing non-covalently bound labeled probes and single stranded DNA; and h) detecting captured detectable moiety indicating the presence of the nucleotide sequence within the double-stranded DNA in the sample; wherein steps c.-h. are performed by microarray technique. Also provided is a device and a kit suitable for carrying out said detection method.

WO 01/18241 A1